

Memorandum



Date: July 12, 2013

To: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Carlos A. Gimenez".

Subject: Invitation to CALEA Public Hearing and Accreditation Overview

The Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) cordially invites you to attend the Department's public hearing to maintain reaccreditation with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), Inc., on Monday, August 12, 2013, from 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., in the Miami-Dade Commission Chambers. As part of the final phase of accreditation assessment, agencies are encouraged to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of obtaining feedback from the community and employees regarding the Department's performance. The session is not a public forum for discussion of local matters that do not fall within the purview of the accreditation standards and the CALEA Team Leader may exercise discretion in adjusting the time allotted for speakers, completing the session, or concluding oral presentations.

ACCREDITATION OVERVIEW AND BENEFITS

Accreditation provides law enforcement agencies with a process to systematically conduct an internal review and assessment of agency policies and procedures and make adjustments wherever necessary to meet a body of law enforcement standards, and provides the following benefits:

- Greater accountability within the agency
- Stronger defense against civil lawsuits
- Increased community advocacy
- Support from government officials

MDPD AND ACCREDITATION

- As the largest law enforcement agency in the Southeastern United States, local leaders felt it was in the County's best interest to become accredited. Municipal agencies within Miami-Dade County rely on MDPD support services in seeking their own accreditation.
- MDPD initially became CALEA accredited in 1993 following the dedicated work of an 11-member MDPD team of personnel over a two-year period. Currently, the Department maintains compliance with over 450 CALEA standards. MDPD also attained comparative compliance with accreditation standards from Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc., in 2004. The State accreditation process requires that agencies comply with a reduced number of standards, 81 out of 280 Standards, based on an agency's continued compliance with CALEA standards.
- Every three years, MDPD is required to undergo an on-site assessment to maintain accreditation status. CALEA Assessors will conduct a site visit beginning August 11, 2013. During the visit, assessors will review standard files, conduct tours of various departmental facilities, and interview personnel throughout the Department with regard to their duties/procedures.
- Maintaining accreditation strongly contributes to the MDPD carrying out its mission of providing service with integrity, respect, and fairness.

On behalf of the MDPD, I look forward to your support in the Miami-Dade Police Department's endeavor to become reaccredited.

c: R.A. Cuevas, Jr. County Attorney
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff
Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor